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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: MicroSoft

To whom ever can help!

Important points:

FIRST....consider how MicroSoft, (MS) gets market share for products.
There was products for word processing and MS did not have a product. At
that point in time Word Perfect was the premium word processing
software. MS came out with MsWord which was not as good and gave it
away. Most people opted for the free MsWord even though it was not as
good and thereby MsWord gained market share. NOW MS gets several hundred
dollars for these products. In current environment you have to have MS's
word processor on your system. The same thing is true for MS's spread
sheet software, Excel, and for the Internet Explorer, (IE) browser being
incorporated as part of the OS. Without the Windows OS monopoly these
things could not have been possible. Competition is great but should be
on an even playing field.

SECOND...MS is taunted for being innovative. When IBM designed the first
PC they thought that the market place for a PC was in the 100's of
thousands. Therefore they did not want to design an OS. Gates and crew
purchased the DOS from a company for less than $100,000.00 for use by
IBM for the PC. Later MS incorporated the Graphics interface from Apple.
With this Windows OS monopoly they have and are still forcing PC users
to use their products because of the uneven competition.

THIRD...The browser war is the most recent example of the arrogance of
MS. There is absolutely no reason that IE should be part of the Window's
OS. The Windows OS is still unstable and incorporating the IE makes it
more so. Since the IE is part of the OS is why the IE has considerable
more security problems than other browsers. A lot of viruses only attack
a PC if you use IE. If you have to reinstall the Windows OS, (the
resolve some illogical problem) you have to remove IE, reinstall
Windows, then reinstall IE. With IE you can only have one version of the
software on a PC. This creates additional problems for designers and
users as some web sites only work with a certain version level of
browsers. For example on my PC four versions of Netscape are installed
and IE 5.5. I would like to have IE 5.5 and IE 6.1 both installed to
test software I am writing. Web software has to be made to work with the
majority of browsers and with the most used versions of those browsers.

SUMMARY...At a minimum the IE should be a separate product and not part
of the Windows OS. This would not hinder MS from being innovative in any
way.

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